

PRIORITY
200-5000

Chief of Station, Mexico

10 - 9-11

Chief, WFO

Matters for discussion with Anthony R. PONCHAY
on Move of AMICAR to Mexico

Re:

JOHN F. KENNEDY

For PONCHAY

The following is in response to your request for a summary of points that need to be clarified in discussions between you and Station Mexico on the forthcoming move of AMICAR to Mexico City.

1. Political

A. The requirement that the "overt" office will consist of only three officials, the others being "covert", and the statement that "the presence of large AMICAR in Mexico should not become known and never admitted". Cf. MEXI-5904, 24 July. (Comments: It would appear impossible to comply with this requirement if there is to be an overt office and any AMICAR publicity in Mexico or elsewhere, since the identities and whereabouts of all AMICAR members will be a matter of public knowledge.)

B. The statement in para 3, MEXI-5941 that the Mexican Government will not be friendly unless AMICAR activities and "plotting to overthrow Cuban Government" remain covert. (Comments: Since there is to be an overt office and propaganda department and AMICAR has been, and will have to continue to be, described as a group organized for the purpose of removing the CASTRO government, their necessary propaganda activities toward this end cannot be covert. Could it be modified to apply only to agreement that no military invasion would be launched from Mexico?)

24,01 C. Clarification of the words "disavow" and "established" in the following statement by LITTON JR: "...may have to disavow AMICAR and the effort should be established AMICAR in contact with AMICAR in Mexico". (Comments: Since there will be no overt LITTON JR support AMICAR, the term disavow is ambiguous. That will constitute its being established that LITTON JR is in contact with AMICAR? Certainly we can expect the charge will be made many times by the Soviets and Cubans.)

24,01 D. Possibility of LITTON JR holding meeting to brief AMICAR leaders on Cuban subversive activities Mexico (para 5, MEXI-5953) before arrival AMICAR, which would undoubtedly be of assistance in obtaining popular and official sympathy for AMICAR activities.

2. Propaganda

24 We plan to have AMICAR propaganda department in Mexico, but it will be impossible for them to operate effectively, or indeed at all, if LITTON JR continues to insist on AMICAR activities in Mexico "remaining covert" and not becoming public or press issue. To feel a tremendous publicity drive should be made throughout Latin America at the time of arrival of AMICAR in Mexico. Station MEXI assets will be needed to a large extent in improving the public and political climate to allow AMICAR people to work effectively. Also, it is hoped station will be able to guide and support AMICAR, who will arrive in Mexico soon to produce a radio in exile, which will ostensibly be independent but actually will be pro-AMICAR. AMICAR will also make satirical, humorous radio tapes for broadcasting over Radio Swan.

G/W

3. PM

Requirements set forth DIR-40133, dated 15 July. If permission could be obtained for use this territory, even if only for 72 hours prior and during the main strike operation, the project would be advanced materially.

4. CI

A. We concur requirement that TRICKY contact with Station and with AMICAR be clandestine. Need Station's assistance in working out mechanics of these contacts.

24 B. Station's advice and assistance needed on following: (1) provision of unilateral telephone taps/wire installation operational data for AMICAR consumption; (2) protection unilateral (comm. routes) of AMICAR members against enemy agent executive actions; (3) unilateral agent surveillance to check on security and loyalty of overt/covert AMICAR members; (4) selection of secure safe sites for housing of AMICAR members, for overt office, and for covert meeting sites.

24 C. Mexican Government capabilities in terms of protection of overt AMICAR members against enemy agent executive action operations.

D. Can Station communication facilities (pouch and cable) be used for secure AMICAR communications between members in Mexico and those in PERDUE and elsewhere?

OLIVER C. GALDOED

Distribution:

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9 August 1960

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